Development of minor ports

150. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Government has urged the Central Government to revive its earlier policy of assistance for development of minor ports;

(b) whether the working group on ports for the Seventh Five Year Plan and sub-group to identify minor ports in each maritime state have submitted their reports, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of the development schemes submitted by Government of Gujarat for consideration and for Central assistance and the action taken on each of these by Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Working Group on Ports for the Seventh Five Year Plan in its Report recommended a provision of Rs. 100 crores in the VII Plan for giving Central assistance to maritime states for developing minor ports. As only a provision of Rs. 20 crores was included in the VII Plan, no report by the Sub-Group was deemed necessary.

(c) The details of the state's schemes submitted by the Government of Gujarat are as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

(i) Development of Pipavav port as a deep draft direct berthing port		24.40
(ii) Development of Port Hajira in South Gujarat		22.12
(iii) Modernisation of selected port that is		18.72
Verval	8 00	
Okha	5.20	
Bedi	5.42	
TOTAL		65.24

The proposals have been considered by the Central Government but due to constraint on resources, it has not been found possible to give central assistance for these projects.

Anticipated requirement of telephones

151. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated number of telephone connections and PCOs in urban and rural areas which the country would need by the end of century and what is the estimated total cost for providing the requisite facilities; and

(b) whether Government have framed any perspective plan for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) It is estimated that around 190 lakhs telephone connections, 6 lakh public telephones to cover every village and 10 lakh public telephones in Urban areas will be needed by the year 2000. An investment of around Rs. 50,000 crores over the period 1985—2000 is expected to be required to be provide these facilities.

(b) Broad outlines have been drawn.

Digital Electronic Exchanges for Maharashtra

152. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the contemplated plan target with regard to opening of digital electronic telephone exchanges for the State of Maharashtra for the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the new lines proposed to be provided in 1987-88 with details of cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) About 2,08,000 digital electronic local telephone exchange lines are planned for installation during the Seventh Five Year Plan Period.